

## Government of Maharashtra

**By Speed Post**

No.FLD-3616/CR-01/F-10  
Revenue and Forest Department,  
Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032.  
Dated: 10.06.2021

To,  
Regional Officer (Central),  
Integrated Regional Office,  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,  
Government of India, Nagpur-440 001.

**Subject: Forest Land-Chandrapur**

Diversion of 12.07 ha. Forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Sakhari-Irawati (Pouni III) Opencast Mine Project.

Sir,

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted the proposal for diversion of 12.07 ha. Forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Sakhari-Irawati (Pouni III) Opencast Mine Project.

2. The details of forest land proposed for diversion are as under: -

Sr. No.	Item Work	Village	Taluka	Compt. No.	Survey No.	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
1.	Sakhari-Irawati (Pouni III) Mining Project	Sakhari	Rajura	R-603	140/1 P	11.8825	Reserve Forest
2.	Safety Zone			R-603	440/1 P	0.1875	
Total						12.0700	

3. The proposal has been initiated by the Area General Manager WCL, Ballarpur Area. The project includes 766.47 ha. non-forest land. Sakhari-Irawati (Pouni-III) Opencast mine is located in Rajura Tahsil of Chandrapur district of Maharashtra State. The mine is 210 km away from Nagpur and nearest railway station is Ballarpur, which is about 20 km from the proposed project. The project would contribute 1.25 Mty. of coal per annum to bridge the ever increasing gap between demand and supply of Thermal Power Stations in India.


4. **The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda Forest Division has certified that:-**

- 4.1 no suitable alternate land is available and the forest land required is barest minimum.
- 4.2 the area belongs to Eco-value class-III having density less than 0.4 comes under Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest.
- 4.3 no tree felling involved in implementation of the Project.
- 4.4 the area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.
- 4.5 proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archaeological or recreational importance.
- 4.6 there is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
- 4.7 the proposed area for the project is beyond 10 km from the boundary of the Protected Areas.

4.8 and proposed Compensatory Afforestation over 24.14 ha. degraded forest land in Compartment No.567 in Ballarpur Range, Central Chanda division, Dist. Chandrapur and it is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances.

5. **The User Agency has submitted an undertaking that:-**

- 5.1 agrees to defray the cost of compensatory afforestation.
- 5.2 agrees to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed under diversion.
- 5.3 the compliance under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been applied and is under process and shall be submitted before approval.
6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur has recommended the proposal subject to the conditions, given in his specific recommendations, under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. His specific recommendations are enclosed in the proposal.
7. In the circumstances explained in the aforesaid paragraphs and enclosures, the State Government recommends that the said forest land may be allowed to be diverted on the conditions proposed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur. The matter may kindly be placed before the Government of India for its approval under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, be obtained and communicated to this Government.

  
90/06/2021  
(Arvind Apte)

O/C Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)

Arvind Apte  
Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)  
Revenue and Forests Department  
Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400032

**Encl:** A) Set of case papers

B) The following documents are enclosed:-

1. Prescribed form as per Rules.
2. Certificate regarding minimum demand for forest land for the project
3. Commitment from the Applicant for defraying the cost of Net Present Value & Compensatory Afforestation.
4. Brief note of the project from the project authority
5. Map of proposed land for Compensatory Afforestation
6. Site Inspection Report.
7. Certificate in Part V.

**Copy to:**

1. Principal Secretary, Tribal Development Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State Nagpur with reference to his letter No.Desk-17/NC/I/ID-1715/15-16, Dt.15.12.2015.
3. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & C.E.O.,Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur.
4. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Chandrapur.
5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda Division, Chandrapur.
6. Area General Manager WCL, Ballarpur Area, At. Dhoptala, Tal. Rajura, Dist. Chandrapur
7. Select File F-10.

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(Pouni III) opencast Mine Project.

**PART - V**

**(To be filled up by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other  
authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)**

**1. Recommendation of the  
State Government**

The proposal is recommended  
vide Government letter  
No.FLD-3616/CR-01/F-10  
Dated: 10.06.2021

*Arvind Apte*  
10/06/2021

**(Arvind Apte)**

Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)

Arvind Apte  
Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)  
Revenue and Forests Department  
Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400032

**Place: Mumbai**

**Date: 10.06.2021**